

REMARKS

INTRODUCTION:

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 8, 12, 15, 22, 29, 31, 33, 44, 55, 57, 59, 67 and 71 are currently amended. No new matter has been added by way of the amendments. For the Examiner's convenience, Applicants have provided attachment A including markings showing current amendments to the claims relative to the amendment filed October 14, 2003.

Claims 1-86 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 4, 8, 11, 15, 22, 29, 31, 33, 44, 55, 57, 59, 63 and 67 are independent claims. Reconsideration of the claims in light of the present amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER:

Claims 1-7, 11-14 and 63-66 are allowed. Claims 10, 16-19, 23-26, 34-37, 41, 42, 45-47, 52, 53, 61, 62, 68-70, 75-78 and 82-86 are objected to but are indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicant will hold the rewriting of these claims in abeyance until the arguments presented herein have been considered.

REQUEST FOR ORIGINAL PATENT:

In the Office Action, at page 2, the Office requests that Applicant return the original patent before this reissue application can be allowed, based on 37 CFR 1.178. Applicant respectfully traverses this request for the following reason.

37 CFR 1.178(a) was amended, effective October 21, 2004, to eliminate the requirement for physical surrender of the original letters patent (i.e., the "ribbon copy" of the original patent) in a reissue application, and to make surrender of the original patent automatic upon the grant of the reissue patent. Amended 37 CFR 1.178(a) applies retroactively to all pending applications (MPEP §1416).

Accordingly, Applicant asserts the requirement is moot in view of the implementation of the amended rule.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112:

In the Office Action, at page 4, claim 71 stands objected to under 35 U.S.C. §112. In accordance with the Examiner's helpful comments, the claim has been amended to provide proper antecedent basis and improve clarity.

Withdrawal of the outstanding rejection is respectfully requested.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 USC §§ 102 & 103:

Claims 15, 21-22, 28, 33, 43-44, 54, 67, 71, 73, 74, and 80 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Canadian Patent No. 2005070 to Yuen et al. ("Yuen"). Claims 29-32, 55-58 and 81 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by US Patent No. 4,641,205 to Beyers, Jr. ("Beyers"). Claims 39-40, 48, and 50-51 stand rejected under 35 USC 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Yuen. Claims 8, 9, 20, 27, 38, 49, 59, 60, 72 and 79 stand rejected under 35 USC 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Yuen in view of Beyers. The rejections are respectfully traversed.

Amended independent claim 8 recites at least the following:

"an automatic reservation mode setting operation in a reservation mode which stores a last reserved reservation mode in a microprocessor, and automatically sets a current reservation mode to the stored reservation mode at a next reservation;"

Yuen and Beyers, alone or in combination, fail to suggest or disclose at least the above-recited features of amended independent claim 8. Applicant respectfully directs the Office to page 6 of the Board Decision for Application No. 07/953,915, of which the present application claims the benefit. There, the Board reversed a prior rejection for Application No. 07/953,915, noting that Yuen and Beyers "fails to suggest memorizing in a microprocessor a device programming mode for the next reservation and automatically setting a time clock."

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 8 patentably distinguishes over Yuen and Beyers, and should be allowable for at least the above-mentioned reasons. Since similar features recited by each of the amended independent claims 11, 15, 22, 29, 31, 33, 44, 55, 57, 59 and 67, with potentially differing scope and breadth, are not suggested or disclosed by Yuen and Beyers, the rejection should be withdrawn and claims 11, 15, 22, 29, 31, 33, 44, 55, 57, 59 and 67 also allowed.

Further, Applicant respectfully submits that the remaining dependent claims variously depend from independent claims 8, 11, 15, 22, 29, 31, 33, 44, 55, 57, 59 and 67, and should be allowable for at least the same reasons as claims 8, 11, 15, 22, 29, 31, 33, 44, 55, 57, 59 and 67, as well as for the additional features recited therein.

REQUEST FOR ENTRY IN ACCORDANCE WITH 37 CFR 1.116:

Entry of this Amendment in accordance with 37 CFR 1.116 is respectfully requested. Applicant submits that this Amendment After Final Rejection places the subject application in condition for allowance. This Amendment was not presented earlier because Applicant believed that the prior Amendment placed the subject application in condition for allowance. Accordingly, entry of the instant Amendment as an earnest attempt to advance prosecution and reduce the number of issues under appeal is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116.

CONCLUSION:

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: March 3, 2008

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ATTACHMENT A

The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text surrounded by [brackets] relative to the Amendment filed October 14, 2004.

1. (Once Amended) An automatic setting method in a timer reservation mode for setting a timer reservation in order to carry out a programmed recording in a VCR employing a plurality of reservation modes using a microprocessor,

the method comprising:

an automatic reservation mode setting step in a reservation mode which memorizes the last reserved reservation mode, and automatically sets the memorized reservation mode at the next reservation, in the case where programmed recordings are carried out by the plurality of reservation modes; and

an automatic time adjustment implementing step for shifting to a time adjusting mode where the current time may be set by a user upon inputting a reservation key and upon selecting a reservation mode, when the current time has not been set.

2. (Once Amended) The automatic setting method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said automatic reservation mode setting step comprises:

a reservation mode fetching step sub-step which fetches the memorized reservation mode; and

reservation mode implementing sub-step which automatically reserves the fetched last reservation mode and stores the reserved reservation mode as the last reservation mode into said microprocessor after the completion of the reservation.

3. (Once Amended) The automatic setting method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said automatic time adjustment mode implementing step comprises:

a reservation mode selecting sub-step which displays a menu when said automatic reservation setting mode step has not set the memorized reservation mode or when a reservation key is pressed twice for another reservation mode and when a reservation mode is selected from said menu, thereafter storing the selected mode into said microprocessor;

a time adjustment mode implementing sub-step which automatically advances to a time adjusting mode to set the current time upon finding that the current time has not been set; and

a memorized reservation mode implementing sub-step which fetches the reservation mode stored at said reservation mode selecting sub-step and performs the fetched reservation mode and stores the reserved reservation mode as the last reservation mode into said microprocessor.

4. (Once Amended) An automatic setting method for setting a timer reservation mode in a VCR to a specific mode from a plurality of possible modes, comprising:

(a) storing the mode of a currently performed timer operation in a memory;

(b) reading said mode out of said memory when a next timer operation is performed;

(c) using the read-out mode as the mode for said next timer operation, wherein said step (c) involves checking to determine which of said plurality of modes is equal to said read-out mode;

(d) displaying a menu of said possible modes when the checking in step (c) has resulted in none of said plurality being equal to said read-out mode; and

step (e) of storing a mode selected by the user from said displayed menu.

5. (Once Amended) The method as claimed in claim 4, further comprising:

(f) automatically shifting to a time adjusting mode for setting the current time when the current time is not already set.

6. (Once Amended) The method as claimed in claim 4, further comprising:

(g) reading out the stored mode at step (e) and performing a timer reservation operation according to read-out mode.

7. (Once Amended) The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein when a reservation key is pressed twice, said menu is displayed and said steps (e) and (g) are performed.

8. Twice Amended) A method of setting a timer reservation in a device having a plurality of reservation modes, the method comprising:

an automatic reservation mode setting operation in a reservation mode which [memorizes]stores a last reserved reservation mode in a microprocessor, and automatically sets a current reservation mode to the [memorized]stored reservation mode at a next reservation;
and

an automatic time adjustment implementing operation which shifts to a time adjusting mode where a current time may be set by a user upon inputting a reservation key and upon selecting a reservation mode, when the current time has not been set.

9. (Once Amended) The method as claimed in claim 8, wherein said automatic reservation mode setting operation comprises:

a reservation mode fetching operation sub-operation which fetches the memorized reservation mode; and

a reservation mode implementing sub-operation which automatically reserves the fetched last reservation mode and stores the reserved reservation mode as the last reservation mode after the completion of the reservation.

10. (Once Amended) The method as claimed in claim 8, wherein said automatic time adjustment mode implementing operation comprises:

a reservation mode selecting sub-operation which displays a menu when said automatic reservation setting mode operation has not set the memorized reservation mode in response to another input from the user for another reservation mode and when a reservation mode is selected from said menu, thereafter storing the selected mode;

a time adjustment mode implementing sub-operation which automatically advances to a time adjusting mode to set the current time upon finding that the current time has not been set;
and

a memorized reservation mode implementing sub-operation which fetches the reservation mode stored at said reservation mode selecting sub-operation, performs the fetched reservation mode and stores the reserved reservation mode as the last reservation mode.

11. (Once Amended) A method of setting a timer reservation mode in a device having a plurality of reservation modes to a specific mode, the method comprising:

- storing the mode of a currently performed timer operation;
- reading said stored mode when a next timer operation is performed;
- using the read-out mode as the mode for said next timer operation, wherein said using of the read-out mode comprises checking to determine which of said plurality of modes is equal to said read-out mode;
- displaying a menu of said possible modes when the checking has resulted in none of said plurality of modes being equal to said read-out mode; and
- storing a mode selected by the user from said displayed menu.

12. (Twice Amended) The method as claimed in claim 11, further comprising automatically shifting to a time adjusting mode for setting a current time when the current time is not already set.

13. (Once Amended) The method as claimed in claim 12, further comprising:

- reading out the stored mode selected by the user and performing a timer reservation operation according to read-out mode selected by the user.

14. (Once Amended) The method as claimed in claim 13, further comprising, in response to another input from the user for another reservation mode, displaying the menu, storing the mode selected by the user, and reading out the stored mode selected by the user.

15. (Once Amended) A method of automatically setting a timer reservation using a microprocessor in a device having a plurality of reservation modes, the method comprising:

- selecting one of the reservation modes from the plurality of reservation modes and performing the timer reservation in the one reservation mode; and
- automatically setting a current reservation mode to the one reservation mode in response to a request for a next timer reservation.

16. (Once Amended) The method as claimed in claim 15, wherein the automatically setting comprises:

- determining whether the one reservation mode has been previously selected;

displaying a menu to select one of the plurality of reservation modes and receiving a user input in response to the displayed menu, if no reservation mode has been previously selected; and

performing the next timer reservation in accordance with the one reservation mode if the one reservation mode has been previously selected or in accordance with the user selected reservation mode from the displayed menu if no reservation mode has been previously selected.

17. (Once Amended) The method as claimed in claim 16, wherein the determining whether the one reservation mode has been previously selected comprises:

storing the one reservation mode as a last reservation mode in response to performing the timer reservation in the one reservation mode;

retrieving the stored one reservation mode in response to the request for the next timer reservation; and sequentially comparing the retrieved one reservation mode to ones of the plurality of reservation modes, and if there is a match between the retrieved one reservation mode and any of the ones of the plurality of reservation modes, setting the current reservation mode to the one of the plurality of reservation modes which matches the retrieved one reservation mode.

18. (Once Amended) The method as claimed in claim 17, wherein the plurality of reservation modes comprises a VCR plus reservation mode, a VPT reservation mode, and a PDC reservation mode.

19. (Once Amended) The method as claimed in claim 16, further comprising storing whichever of the one reservation mode and the user selected reservation mode is used to perform the next timer reservation as a last reservation mode in response to performing the next timer reservation.

20. (Once Amended) The method as claimed in claim 15, further comprising:
checking whether a current time has been set before performing the next timer reservation;

automatically shifting to a time adjusting mode for enabling a user to enter the current time if the current time has not been set; and

performing the next timer reservation subsequent to the current time having been set or entered by the user.

21. (Once Amended) The method of claim 15, wherein the timer reservation is to set a programmable recording operation.

22. (Twice Amended) A method of setting a timer reservation in a device having a plurality of reservation modes, wherein a last one of the reservation modes in which a last timer reservation was performed has been stored in a microprocessor, the method comprising:
receiving a request for a next timer reservation; and
automatically setting a next reservation mode to the last reservation mode in response to the request for a next timer reservation.

23. (Once Amended) The method as claimed in claim 22, wherein the automatically setting comprises:
determining whether the last reservation mode has been previously stored; and
displaying a menu to select one of the plurality of reservation modes and receiving a user input in response to the displayed menu, if no last reservation mode has been previously stored; and
performing the next timer reservation in accordance with the last reservation mode if the last reservation mode has been previously stored or in accordance with the user selected reservation mode from the displayed menu if no last reservation mode has been previously selected.

24. (Once Amended) The method as claimed in claim 23, wherein the determining whether the last reservation mode has been previously stored comprises:
retrieving the stored last reservation mode in response to the request for the next timer reservation; and
sequentially comparing the retrieved last reservation mode to ones of the plurality of reservation modes, and if there is a match between the retrieved one reservation mode and any of the ones of the plurality of reservation modes, setting the next reservation mode to the one of the plurality of reservation modes which matches the retrieved last reservation mode.

25. (Once Amended) The method as claimed in claim 24, wherein the plurality of reservation modes comprises a VCR plus reservation mode, a VPT reservation mode, and a PDC reservation mode.

26. (Once Amended) The method as claimed in claim 23, further comprising storing whichever of the last reservation mode and the user selected reservation mode is used to perform the next timer reservation as a new last reservation mode in response to performing the next timer reservation.

27. (Once Amended) The method as claimed in claim 22, further comprising:
checking whether a current time has been set before performing the next timer reservation;
automatically shifting to a time adjusting mode for enabling a user to enter the current time if the current time has not been set; and
performing the next timer reservation subsequent to the current time having been set or entered by the user.

28. (Once Amended) The method of claim 22, wherein the timer reservation is to set a programmable recording operation.

29. (Twice Amended) A method of setting a timer reservation in a device, the method comprising:
receiving a request for the timer reservation;
checking whether a current time has been set before performing the timer reservation;
automatically shifting to a time adjusting mode for enabling a user to enter the current time if the current time has not been set; and
performing the timer reservation subsequent to the current time having been set or entered by the user according to a stored reservation mode selected and stored in a microprocessor before the current time was set.

30. (Once Amended) The method as claimed in claim 29, wherein the timer reservation is to set a programmable recording operation.

31. (Twice Amended) A method of setting a timer reservation in a recording and/or reproducing device, the method comprising:
automatically shifting to a time adjusting mode for enabling a user to enter the current time if the current time has not been set in response to a request for a timer reservation; and

performing the timer reservation subsequent to the current time having been entered by the user according to a stored reservation mode stored in a microprocessor and selected from one of a plurality of reservation modes usable by the recording and/or reproducing device before the current time was entered.

32. (Once Amended) The method as claimed in claim 31, wherein the timer reservation is to set a programmable recording operation.

33. (Once Amended) A device for making a timer reservation and which has a plurality of reservation modes, comprising:

an input device selecting one of the reservation modes from the plurality of reservation modes and performing the timer reservation in the one reservation mode; and

a microprocessor storing the one reservation mode and automatically setting a current reservation mode to the one reservation mode in response to a request for a next timer reservation from the input device.

34. (Once Amended) The device as claimed in claim 33, further comprising:

a display;

a character display generator which generates character signals to display alpha-numeric characters on the display;

wherein the processor determines whether the one reservation mode has been previously selected, displays a menu on the display to select one of the plurality of reservation modes and receives a user input from the input device in response to the displayed menu, if no reservation mode has been previously selected, and performs the next timer reservation in accordance with the one reservation mode if the one reservation mode has been previously selected or in accordance with the user selected reservation mode from the displayed menu if no reservation mode has been previously selected.

35. (Once Amended) The device as claimed in claim 34, wherein the processor stores the one reservation mode as a last reservation mode in response to performing the timer reservation in the one reservation mode, retrieves the stored one reservation mode in response to the request for the next timer reservation from the input device; and sequentially compares the retrieved one reservation mode to ones of the plurality of reservation modes, and if there is a

match between the retrieved one reservation mode and any of the ones of the plurality of reservation modes, sets the current reservation mode to the one of the plurality of reservation modes which matches the retrieved one reservation mode.

36. (Once Amended) The device as claimed in claim 35, wherein the plurality of reservation modes comprises a VCR plus reservation mode, a VPT reservation mode, and a PDC reservation mode.

37. (Once Amended) The device as claimed in claim 34, wherein the processor stores whichever of the one reservation mode and the user selected reservation mode is used to perform the next timer reservation as a last reservation mode in response to performing the next timer reservation.

38. (Once Amended) The device as claimed in claim 33, wherein the processor checks whether a current time has been set before performing the next timer reservation, automatically shifts to a time adjusting mode for enabling a user to enter the current time if the current time has not been set, and performs the next timer reservation subsequent to the current time having been set or entered by the user.

39. (Once Amended) The device as claimed in claim 33, wherein the processor comprises a volatile memory which temporarily stores the one reservation mode.

40. (Once Amended) The device as claimed in claim 39, further comprising a non-volatile memory which stores the one reservation mode.

41. (Once Amended) The device as claimed in claim 34, wherein the processor comprises a volatile memory which temporarily stores the one reservation mode.

42. (Once Amended) The device as claimed in claim 41, further comprising a non-volatile memory which stores the one reservation mode.

43. (Once Amended) The device as claimed in claim 33, wherein the timer reservation is to set a programmable recording operation.

44. (Once Amended) A device having a plurality of reservation modes, wherein a last one of the reservation modes in which a last timer reservation was performed has been stored in a microprocessor memory, the device comprising:

- an input device receiving a request for a next timer reservation; and
- a processor automatically setting a next reservation mode to the last reservation mode in response to the request for a next timer reservation.

45. (Once Amended) The device as claimed in claim 44, further comprising:

- a display;
- a character display generator which generates character signals to display alpha-numeric characters on the display;

wherein the processor determines whether the last reservation mode has been previously stored, displays a menu to select one of the plurality of reservation modes on the display and receives a user input in response to the displayed menu, if no last reservation mode has been previously stored, and performs the next timer reservation in accordance with the last reservation mode if the last reservation mode has been previously stored or in accordance with the user selected reservation mode from the displayed menu if no last reservation mode has been previously selected.

46. (Once Amended) The device as claimed in claim 45, wherein the processor retrieves the stored last reservation mode in response to the request for the next timer reservation, and sequentially compares the retrieved last reservation mode to ones of the plurality of reservation modes, and if there is a match between the retrieved one reservation mode and any of the ones of the plurality of reservation modes, sets the next reservation mode to the one of the plurality of reservation modes which matches the retrieved last reservation mode.

47. (Once Amended) The device as claimed in claim 46, wherein the plurality of reservation modes comprises a VCR plus reservation mode, a VPT reservation mode, and a PDC reservation mode.

48. (Once Amended) The device as claimed in claim 44, wherein the processor comprises a memory which stores whichever of the last reservation mode and the user selected reservation mode is used to perform the next timer reservation as a new last reservation mode in response to the performing of the next timer reservation.

49. (Once Amended) The device as claimed in claim 44, wherein the processor checks whether a current time has been set before performing the next timer reservation, automatically shifts to a time adjusting mode for enabling a user to enter the current time to the input device if the current time has not been set, and performs the next timer reservation subsequent to the current time having been set or entered by the user to the input device.

50. (Once Amended) The device as claimed in claim 44, wherein the processor comprises a volatile memory which temporarily stores the one reservation mode.

51. (Once Amended) The device as claimed in claim 50, further comprising a non-volatile memory which stores the one reservation mode.

52. (Once Amended) The device as claimed in claim 45, wherein the processor comprises a volatile memory which temporarily stores the one reservation mode.

53. (Once Amended) The device as claimed in claim 52, further comprising a non-volatile memory which stores the one reservation mode.

54. (Once Amended) The device as claimed in claim 44, wherein the timer reservation is to set a programmable recording operation.

55. (Twice Amended) A device, comprising:
an input device receiving a request for a timer reservation;
a [memory]microprocessor, in which is stored a reservation mode selected from a plurality of reservation modes usable by the device; and
a processor checking whether a current time has been set before performing the timer reservation, automatically shifting to a time adjusting mode for enabling a user to enter the current time to the input device if the current time has not been set, and performing the timer reservation subsequent to the current time having been set or entered by the user to the input device according to the stored reservation mode stored in the [memory]microprocessor prior to the current time having been set or entered.

56. (Once Amended) The device as claimed in claim 55, wherein the timer reservation is to set a programmable recording operation.

57. (Twice Amended) A device, comprising:

a processor automatically shifting to a time adjusting mode for enabling a user to enter the current time if the current time has not been set in response to a request for a timer reservation, and performing the timer reservation subsequent to the current time having been entered by the user according to a stored reservation mode recalled from a memory in a microprocessor, and which was stored prior to the current time having been entered, wherein the stored reservation mode is automatically stored according to a last reserved reservation mode.

58. The device as claimed in claim 57, wherein the timer reservation is to set a programmable recording operation.

59. (Once Amended) A computer readable medium encoded with processing instructions for implementing a method of setting a timer reservation in a device having a plurality of reservation modes performed by a processor, the method comprising:

an automatic reservation mode setting operation in a reservation mode which [memorizes]stores a last reserved reservation mode in a microprocessor, and automatically sets a current reservation mode to the [memorized]stored reservation mode at a next reservation; and

an automatic time adjustment implementing operation which shifts to a time adjusting mode where the current time may be set by a user upon inputting a reservation key and upon selecting a reservation mode, when the current time has not been set.

60. (Once Amended) The computer readable medium as claimed in claim 59, wherein said automatic reservation mode setting operation comprises:

a reservation mode fetching operation sub-operation which fetches the memorized reservation mode; and

a reservation mode implementing sub-operation which automatically reserves the fetched last reservation mode and stores the reserved reservation mode as the last reservation mode after the completion of the reservation.

61. (Once Amended) The computer readable medium as claimed in claim 59, wherein

said automatic time adjustment mode implementing operation comprises:

- a reservation mode selecting sub-operation which displays a menu when said automatic reservation setting mode operation has not set the memorized reservation mode in response to another input from the user for another reservation mode and when a reservation mode is selected from said menu, thereafter storing the selected mode;

- a time adjustment mode implementing sub-operation which automatically advances to a time adjusting mode to set the current time upon finding that the current time has not been set; and

- a memorized reservation mode implementing sub-operation which fetches the reservation mode stored at said reservation mode selecting sub-operation, performs the fetched reservation mode and stores the reserved reservation mode as the last reservation mode.

62. (Once Amended) The computer readable medium as claimed in claim 59, wherein the automatic reservation mode setting operation comprises:

- storing the last reserved reservation mode in response to performing a last timer reservation in the last reserved reservation mode;

- retrieving the stored last reserved reservation mode in response to a request for the next reservation;

- comparing the retrieved last reserved reservation mode to ones of the plurality of reservation modes to determine which one of the plurality of reservation modes matches the retrieved last reserved reservation mode;

- setting the current reservation mode to the one of the plurality of reservation modes which matches the retrieved last reserved reservation mode; and

- performing the next reservation in accordance with the set current reservation mode.

63. (Once Amended) A computer readable medium encoded with processing instructions for implementing a method of setting a timer reservation mode in a device having a plurality of reservation modes to a specific mode performed by a processor, the method comprising:

- storing the mode of a currently performed timer operation;

- reading said stored mode when a next timer operation is performed;

- using the read-out mode as the mode for said next timer operation, wherein said using of the read-out mode comprises checking to determine which of said plurality of modes is equal to said read-out mode;

- displaying a menu of said possible modes when the checking has resulted in none of

said plurality of modes being equal to said read-out mode; and
storing a mode selected by the user from said displayed menu.

64. (Once Amended) The computer readable medium as claimed in claim 63, further comprising automatically shifting to a time adjusting mode for setting a current time when the current time is not already set.

65. (Once Amended) The computer readable medium as claimed in claim 64, further comprising:
reading out the stored mode selected by the user and performing a timer reservation operation according to read-out mode selected by the user.

66. (Once Amended) The computer readable medium as claimed in claim 65, further comprising, in response to another input from the user for another reservation mode, displaying the menu, storing the mode selected by the user, and reading out the stored mode selected by the user.

67. (Once Amended) A computer readable medium encoded with processing instructions for implementing a method of automatically setting a timer reservation using a microprocessor in a device having a plurality of reservation modes performed by a processor, the method comprising:

selecting one of the reservation modes from the plurality of reservation modes and performing the timer reservation in the one reservation mode; and
automatically setting a current reservation mode to the one reservation mode in response to a request for a next timer reservation.

68. (Once Amended) The computer readable medium as claimed in claim 67, wherein the automatically setting comprises:

determining whether the one reservation mode has been previously selected;
displaying a menu to select one of the plurality of reservation modes and receiving a user input in response to the displayed menu, if no reservation mode has been previously selected;
and

performing the next timer reservation in accordance with the one reservation mode if the one reservation mode has been previously selected or in accordance with the user selected

reservation mode from the displayed menu if no reservation mode has been previously selected.

69. (Once Amended) The computer readable medium as claimed in claim 67, wherein the automatically setting comprises:

storing the one reservation mode as a last reservation mode in response to performing the timer reservation in the one reservation mode;

retrieving the stored one reservation mode in response to the request for the next timer reservation;

comparing the retrieved one reservation mode to ones of the plurality of reservation modes to determine which one of the plurality of reservation modes matches the retrieved one reservation mode; and

setting the current reservation mode to the one of the plurality of reservation modes that matches the retrieved one reservation mode.

70. (Once Amended) The computer readable medium as claimed in claim 69, wherein the plurality of reservation modes comprises a VCR plus reservation mode, a VPT reservation mode, and a PDC reservation mode.

71. (Once Amended) The computer readable medium as claimed in claim 67, further comprising storing whichever of the one reservation mode and [the]a user selected reservation mode is used to perform the next timer reservation as a last reservation mode in response to performing the next timer reservation.

72. (Once Amended) The computer readable medium as claimed in claim 67, further comprising:

checking whether a current time has been set before performing the next timer reservation;

automatically shifting to a time adjusting mode for enabling a user to enter the current time if the current time has not been set; and

performing the next timer reservation subsequent to the current time having been set or entered by the user.

73. (Once Amended) The computer readable medium as claimed in claim 67, wherein the timer reservation is to set a programmable recording operation.

74. (Once Amended) A computer readable medium encoded with processing instructions for implementing a method of setting a timer reservation in a device having a plurality of reservation modes, as performed by a processor and where a last one of the reservation modes in which a last timer reservation was performed has been stored, the method comprising:

- receiving a request for a next timer reservation; and
- automatically setting a next reservation mode to the last reservation mode in response to the request for a next timer reservation.

75. (Once Amended) The computer readable medium as claimed in claim 74, wherein the automatically setting comprises:

- determining whether the last reservation mode has been previously stored; and
- displaying a menu to select one of the plurality of reservation modes and receiving a user input in response to the displayed menu, if no last reservation mode has been previously stored; and

- performing the next timer reservation in accordance with the last reservation mode if the last reservation mode has been previously stored or in accordance with the user selected reservation mode from the displayed menu if no last reservation mode has been previously selected.

76. (Once Amended) The computer readable medium as claimed in claim 74, wherein the automatically setting comprises:

- retrieving the stored last reservation mode in response to the request for the next timer reservation;

- comparing the retrieved last reservation mode to ones of the plurality of reservation modes to determine which of the ones of the plurality of reservation modes matches the retrieved last reservation mode; and

- setting the next reservation mode to the one of the plurality of reservation modes which matches the retrieved last reservation mode.

77. (Once Amended) The computer readable medium as claimed in claim 76, wherein the plurality of reservation modes comprises a VCR plus reservation mode, a VPT reservation mode, and a PDC reservation mode.

78. (Once Amended) The computer readable medium as claimed in claim 75, further comprising storing whichever of the last reservation mode and the user selected reservation mode is used to perform the next timer reservation as a new last reservation mode in response to performing the next timer reservation.

79. (Once Amended) The computer readable medium as claimed in claim 74, further comprising:

checking whether a current time has been set before performing the next timer reservation;

automatically shifting to a time adjusting mode for enabling a user to enter the current time if the current time has not been set; and

performing the next timer reservation subsequent to the current time having been set or entered by the user.

80. (Once Amended) The computer readable medium as claimed in claim 74, wherein the timer reservation is to set a programmable recording operation.

81. (Once Amended) A computer readable medium encoded with processing instructions for implementing a method of setting a timer reservation in a device performed by a processor, the method comprising:

receiving a request for the timer reservation;

checking whether a current time has been set before performing the timer reservation;

automatically shifting to a time adjusting mode for enabling a user to enter the current time if the current time has not been set; and

performing the timer reservation subsequent to the current time having been set or entered by the user according to a stored reservation mode selected from one of a plurality of reservation modes usable by the device.

82. (Once Amended) The method as claimed in claim 8, wherein said automatic reservation mode setting operation comprises:

storing the last reserved reservation mode in response to performing a timer reservation in the last reserved reservation mode;

retrieving the stored last reserved reservation mode in response to a request for the next

reservation;

comparing the retrieved last reserved reservation mode to ones of the plurality of reservation modes to determine which one of the plurality of reservation modes matches the retrieved last reserved reservation mode;

setting the current reservation mode to the one of the plurality of reservation modes which matches the retrieved last reserved reservation mode; and

performing the next reservation in accordance with the set current reservation mode.

83. (Once Amended) The method as claimed in claim 15, wherein the automatically setting comprises:

storing the one reservation mode as a last reservation mode in response to performing the timer reservation in the one reservation mode;

retrieving the stored one reservation mode in response to the request for the next timer reservation;

comparing the retrieved one reservation mode to ones of the plurality of reservation modes to determine which one of the plurality of reservation modes matches the retrieved one reservation mode;

setting the current reservation mode to the one of the plurality of reservation modes which matches the retrieved one reservation mode; and

performing the next timer reservation in accordance with the set current reservation mode.

84. (Once Amended) The method as claimed in claim 22, wherein the automatically setting comprises:

retrieving the stored last one reservation mode in response to the request for the next timer reservation;

comparing the retrieved one reservation mode to ones of the plurality of reservation modes to determine which one of the plurality of reservation modes matches the retrieved one reservation mode;

setting the current reservation mode to the one of the plurality of reservation modes which matches the retrieved one reservation mode; and

performing the next timer reservation in accordance with the current reservation mode.

85. (Once Amended) The device as claimed in claim 33, further comprising a memory

which stores the one reservation mode, wherein the processor, in response to the request for the next timer reservation:

- retrieves the stored one reservation mode;

- compares the retrieved one reservation mode to ones of the plurality of reservation modes to determine which one of the plurality of reservation modes matches the retrieved one reservation mode;

- sets the current reservation mode to the one of the plurality of reservation modes which matches the retrieved one reservation mode; and

- performs the next timer reservation in accordance with the set current reservation mode.

86. (Once Amended) The device as claimed in claim 44, further comprising a memory which stores the last one reservation mode, wherein the processor, in response to the request for the next timer reservation:

- retrieves the stored last one reservation mode;

- compares the retrieved one reservation mode to ones of the plurality of reservation modes to determine which one of the plurality of reservation modes matches the retrieved one reservation mode;

- sets the next reservation mode to the one of the plurality of reservation modes which matches the retrieved one reservation mode; and

- performs the next timer reservation in accordance with the set next reservation mode.